UCSF
Newsbreak

News for the UCSF Campus Community

VOL. 12, NO. 11 JUNE 7, 1997

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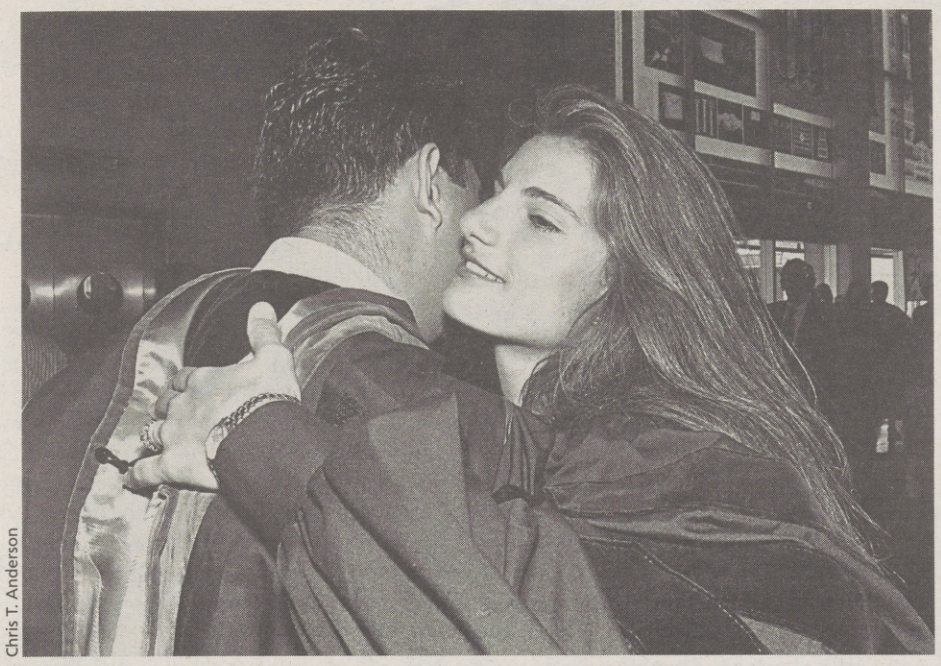
8 As merger nears, employees learn about benefits options



Chris T. Anderson

Congratulations graduates!

With hugs and kisses to their classmates, 69 students in UCSF's Graduate Division and 161 School of Medicine students received their diplomas at commencement ceremonies recently. For award winners and photos of these ceremonies, see page 3. Newsbreak will have highlights from the upcoming commencements of the Schools of Nursing, Pharmacy and Dentistry as well as the psychiatry department in future issues. Above, Alireza Atri congratulates his colleague, Anita Demas. Both planning careers in internal medicine, Atri will do his residency at Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston and Demas will do her residency at Stanford.

Aging Aldea complex to be razed and rebuilt

By BRAD FOSS

UC Regents came one step closer to approving an $18.5 million demolition and redevelopment of UCSF's aging Aldea San Miguel student housing complex at its meeting last month in Los Angeles.

Regents amended the University's capital improvement program to fund the project with $4.7 million of UC Housing System net revenues and a $13.8 million loan. Design issues will be considered at the Regents' June meeting.

Campus housing officials said the existing units — which had not received any significant upgrades since they were built in 1960 — "had reached the end of their useful life."

Final bids for the housing project are expected by the middle of August. Construction could begin as early as September 1997.

In February, the Aldea Redevelopment Review Committee, a group composed of students who live on and off campus as well as staff, strongly endorsed the project and agreed to pay higher rental fees if necessary.

Over the next three years, the 165 one- and two-bedroom apartments will be razed and replaced with 130 new-and-improved, larger units, equipped with dishwashers, garbage disposals, ranges, refrigerators and better soundproofing. Sixty percent of the new units at Aldea will be two bedroom, the remainder will be one bedroom.

The University is looking into the feasibility of developing a child care center for Aldea residents, who live one mile from Parnassus near the top of Mount Sutro. But the introduction of that service depends on whether UCSF can make it affordable for students.

The University intends to make up for the net loss of 35 units in student housing once the redevelopment is completed. One possibility is to add more student housing with the construction of a new major site at Mission Bay. Another is to modify existing space at Parnassus, as long as the University stays within the limits of its long range development plan.

"We'll still have the same pie, we're just going to slice it a little differently," says Jim Jacobs, associate director of campus housing and project manager.

The number of on-campus residences declined six years ago, too, when Millberry Union Dormitory, which had room for 210 single student units, was converted into administrative space. The conversion resulted in a net loss of about 20 units, as students were relocated.

Planning for the Aldea project began three years ago through a collaborative effort between UCSF and Aldea residents who participated in market surveys and focus groups. In December 1994, Aldea residents and other students who were surveyed said between $1,000 and $1,200 per month would be reasonable rent for the proposed facilities.

Rents will be hiked on an incremental basis and could reach an estimated $1,137 and $1,387 for one- and two-bedroom apartments, respectively, by the year 2000. Rents will be offset, however, by a financial aid program being developed by the University. Under the pro-

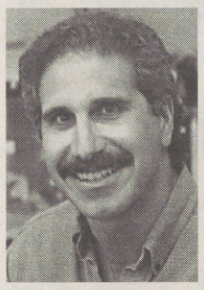
(See **Aldea** on page 6)

UCSF probes biological basis of addiction

By LISA CISNEROS

In the ongoing war on drugs in the US, UCSF researchers are at the forefront of a new battle to understand the basic mechanisms of addiction.

Already one of the world leaders in the clinical treatment of drug and alcohol abuse and home to large-scale trials to analyze their efficacy, UCSF will now focus attention on the basic science of drug addiction with the creation of the Center for the Neurobiology of Addiction.



Malenka

The center will serve as an intellectual hub to encourage scientific discovery in drug addiction by bringing together leading cellular, molecular and neuroscientists from diverse backgrounds and disciplines, many of whom already have made significant discoveries about addiction processes. Ideally, research findings supported by the center will move into the clinical setting where scientists and clinicians will work together to develop and test novel treatments.

"The purpose of the center is to foster innovative, creative and collaborative approaches to understanding the biological basis of addiction," says Robert Malenka, professor of psychiatry and physiology, who was appointed director of the center. "This campus has a long tradition of interdisciplinary and collaborative research."

Solving the problem of addiction to drugs, cigarettes and alcohol has been a difficult task for many, ranging from politicians and law enforcement officials to health care professionals and social workers. While some treatments work for drug addicts, scores of others are ineffective. Like many diseases, the failure of prevention and treatment is in part due to the lack of understanding of the basic biological mechanisms of how one loses control over drug intake, he says.

Scientists now realize that drug dependence has a clear biological basis. Indeed, new knowledge of the inner workings of the brain's circuitry can be linked to the problem of addiction, a result of drug-induced changes in the central nervous system. A recent issue of Nature, for example, describes how powerful brain-imaging technology can be used to track a surge of dopamine, a molecule that transfers messages from one neuron within the brain to another, and its role in producing feelings of euphoria. The article suggests that dopamine is directly responsible for the exhilarating rush that reinforces or rewards the desire to take drugs.

"The time is ripe," says Malenka. "Recent developments in genetics, biochemistry, physiology and cell biology are opening the door. We're beginning to understand addiction at the molecular and neuronal level."

With an initial donation from the Park Water Company Inc., owned and operated by Henry H. Wheeler Jr. and family, the center will seek to establish an endowment to be able to provide financial support to faculty who apply for grants for research projects aimed at applying state-of-the-art molecular and cellular techniques to answer the questions relating to drug addiction. Malenka says roughly five to 10 grants averaging about $50,000 will be awarded each year. The goal is that such research will spawn novel hypotheses of the mechanisms of drug addiction and, hopefully, will lead to more effective treatments, Malenka says.

The center will focus on three major research areas: the molecular targets of addicting drugs; their cellular and synaptic actions; and the neural circuits involved in addiction. The center will also offer courses in the neurobiology of addiction, sponsor seminars featuring experts from all over the world, and hold an annual meeting so that researchers can share their findings.

For more information about the center, including how to apply for grants, email Jennifer Cummings at jen@phy.ucsf.edu or fax her at 502-3146.

Newsbreak begins weekly schedule

Newsbreak/Medsounds is traditionally published less frequently during the summer.

However, this year, as officials from UCSF and Stanford University finalize plans to merge clinical services, the demand for timely information regarding procedural developments and employment issues is of obvious importance. Beginning Tuesday, June 24, Newsbreak/Medsounds will be published on a weekly basis. An official publication schedule will appear in the first weekly edition.

Complete information must be received in the department of Public Affairs in writing by 11 a.m. on the Wednesday prior to the publication date. Send information to Lisa Cisneros at Box 0462 or email her at (cisnero@itsa.ucsf.edu). Send information for the weekly calendar to Nancy Heller at (nheller@itsa.ucsf.edu), mail it to Box 0462, or send a fax to 476-3541.

Ammonia containment tank to be installed

An 8,000-gallon underground tank will be installed on Parnassus in mid-June to store an ammonia solution that will be used to purify emissions from the new UCSF Central Utilities Plant.

The cogeneration plant was designed to meet Bay Area Quality Management District air quality standards, which demand emissions reductions of smog-contributing nitrogen oxides. This will be achieved through what is called a selective catalytic reduction system, or "scrubbers."

The tank, to be housed in an additional containment building, will be located in a small parking lot at the southeast corner of Parnassus Avenue and Medical Center Way. The ammonia solution will be pumped a short distance through underground pipes from the storage tank to the power plant, which will use natural gas to generate electricity and steam energy for the University.

This underground system eliminates potential hazards associated with driving large delivery trucks carrying ammonia along Medical Center Way, a steep and winding road on the side of Mount Sutro. UCSF plans to implement a wide variety of safeguards to effectively eliminate the dispersion of ammonia vapors in the unlikely event of spill.

For instance, the tank and all pipes will be double-walled and the delivery truck will remain enclosed in the containment building while filling the storage tank. The containment building contains a 13,000-gallon catch basin and a charcoal absorption system to scrub any ammonia vapors leaving the containment building.

The underground facility was first proposed in the 1994 Environmental Impact Report prepared for the power plant.

Although larger than the previous power plant, the new facility will produce much cleaner air.

The ammonia solution to be used is 30 percent ammonia and 70 percent water as compared with household ammonia, which is approximately a 3-5 percent solution of ammonia. The scrubbers combine ammonia and a catalyst to convert the nitrogen oxides into nitrogen gas and water vapor.

—Bill Gordon

Three join Howard Hughes institute

Three UCSF scientists have been selected in a national competition to become Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) investigators, which will increase to 16 the number of active HHMI investigators at UCSF.

The newly selected UCSF researchers are Stephen Lisberger, professor of physiology and director of the W.M. Keck Foundation Center for Integrative Neuroscience at UCSF; Richard Locksley, professor and chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases within the Department of Medicine; and Peter Walter, professor and vice chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics and director of the Cell Biology Program at UCSF.

The three are among 15 California scientists named by HHMI May 19.

Lisberger studies coordination, learning and memory. He recently developed a precise brain map documenting how nerves in the cerebellum are involved in learning the timing and magnitude of muscle movements. The findings resulted from his research group's primate studies of two distinct types of eye movements. Studies such as these may shed light on damage and recovery in stroke and brain trauma.

Locksley probes the variability of immune responses that are brought to bear as the body battles parasitic infection. Locksley's efforts focus on leishmaniasis, an infectious disease that afflicts about 16 million worldwide and is caused by a blood-borne parasite transmitted by sand flies. Locksley pursues innovative vaccine strategies that can mobilize the immune system to more effectively fight parasitic agents.

Walter, a cell biologist, recently found a previously unknown pathway that cells use to regulate gene activity in response to cellular needs. Walter made this fundamental discovery while investigating the biochemical signals that regulate activity of a cellular compartment called the endoplasmic reticulum, or ER. The ER controls the quality of protein secretion by the cell. This regulation is believed to be involved in recognition of defective proteins, such as the protein that causes the inherited disorder cystic fibrosis.

This is the third national competition to select HHMI investigators, who conduct biomedical research in five areas: cell biology, genetics, immunology, neuroscience, and structural biology. The last was held in 1994.

HHMI is a medical research organization that enters into long-term research collaboration agreements with universities and other academic research organizations, where its investigators hold faculty appointments. Under these agreements, HHMI investigators, who are employees of the Institute, conduct their scientific research in Institute laboratories located at 72 medical schools, universities and research institutes across the country.

The announcement by HHMI of 70 new investigators brings the total number thus honored to more than 330. The HHMI endowment is currently about $9.6 billion.

Private Support

UCSF is pleased to acknowledge the following listing of gifts/pledges of $25,000 or more from individuals, corporations and foundations received May 1-15, 1997.

$500,000 - $999,999
Bristol-Myers Squibb Inc.

$100,000 - $499,999
The Chicago Community Trust
Mr. and Mrs. A.W. Clausen
The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

$25,000 - $99,999
Mr. and Mrs. Brook H. Byers
Donald H. Devlin '49
Lucille P. Markey Charitable Trust

Excelsior staff wins award for innovation

The Excelsior Group/HealthCare for Women and Children was awarded a 1997 Special Achievement Award for Innovations in Maternal and Child Health at an awards ceremony in Anaheim on May 20.

The award is sponsored by the California Department of Health Services, Maternal and Child Health Branch in collaboration with the UC Berkeley School of Public Health and the Center for Collaborative Planning.

The award recognizes the clinic staff's collaborative community outreach efforts, especially their Patient Education and Community Outreach Linkages (PECOL) project, which produces health education materials in cooperation with participation of the community. The project is funded by the Bernard Osher Foundation and has been developed in collaboration with Jolie Pearl, SFGH Department of Education and Training, and staff members of the SFGH Patient Education Resource Center.

The Excelsior Group is a collaborative effort between the UCSF departments of pediatrics and obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences at San Francisco General Hospital, the UCSF School of Medicine and the Community Health Network of San Francisco.

"Ours is a community-based and community-oriented medical practice dedicated to serving the needs of the women and children in the Excelsior District and other neighborhoods close to us," says Jay Bachicha, assistant professor of obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences, and director of the Excelsior Group. "One goal of the PECOL project is to produce culturally and community-relevant health education materials. The premise is that it is unreasonable to impose health information on the community that may be inappropriate in focus, language or tone. We believe the community can determine what it needs best."

Bachicha

The first year of the multi-year PECOL project was devoted to information gathering, Bachicha says. After a needs assessment study is completed, three or four health education needs will have been identified by the community as having the highest priority. Then the work will be to formulate interventions to address the community's concerns and attempt to resolve them, he said.

While the Excelsior Group is a traditional medical practice, with an obstetrician-gynecologist, nurse midwives and pediatricians, the staff has attempted to go beyond providing medical services by acting as a facilitator for the community in the area of health care and providing a site for residents to discuss issues of importance.

A Community Advisory Group has been formed that has been working with Excelsior staff. The group is culturally diverse and includes the president of a local business group, a political organizer, a director from a neighborhood YMCA, a school principal, and patients from the Excelsior practice.

The group acts as a sounding board for the PECOL project and will also serve as a consulting body for the Excelsior Group practice, enabling the director to provide the best community service, Bachicha says.

Whaley receives Baer memorial award for his dedication

Described as a thoughtful clinician and dedicated teacher, R. Jay Whaley, associate clinical professor of neurology, received the Dr. Charlotte C. Baer Memorial Award at the annual dinner of the Association of the Clinical Faculty on May 5.

Whaley, who joined the clinical faculty in 1967 as an instructor, is responsible for teaching the residents, medical students and house staff in the department of neurology. "He has performed these duties outstandingly well, and he is highly regarded for the clarity of his thought, his diagnostic acumen, and his ability to both encourage and inspire the junior staff and medical students with whom he comes into contact," says one colleague.

Whaley has received awards by the UCSF students in 1988, 1990 and 1992 for his excellent leadership as a clinical preceptor, and received a special recognition award for excellence in teaching and outstanding contributions to the UCSF School of Medicine by the association of clinical faculty in 1992. Over the past 30 years of service, he has always received outstanding teaching evaluations from residents and students.

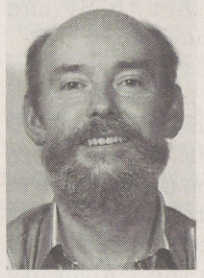
As chief of the department of neurology at the Kaiser Permanente Medical Group in Redwood City, Whaley has been very active in the San Mateo County Medical Association. He was named Physician of the Year in 1993 and has been recognized as a fellow of the American Academy of Neurology. He has worked with the department of neurology at UCSF to promote educational ties and common ground between the Bay Area community and the University of California.

Whaley received a BA from Allegheny College in Meadville, Penn. and his MD from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He served his internship at the US Public Health Service Hospital in Baltimore and his residency at The Johns Hopkins Hospital.

The award is named after Baer, who was admitted to UCSF for her third degree in medicine after she had earned one in her native Germany and another in Switzerland. She became a member of the clinical faculty in medicine and maintained her practice in internal medicine, which was characterized by her devotion to her patients and tenacity and vigor in her pursuit of obscure diagnostic problems.

Honors & Awards

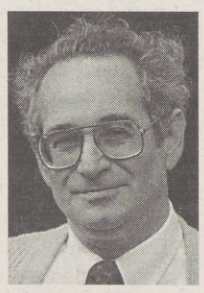
James E. Cleaver, professor of dermatology:


Cleaver

Elected to the Role of Honor of the International Union Against Cancer (UICC), based in Geneva, Switzerland, which has been established to recognize individuals who have made important contributions to the UICC's worldwide fight against cancer. Cleaver's election is in recognition of his pioneering work on the relationship between DNA repair mechanisms and human cancer, and his discovery of the first human genetic disease of DNA repair deficiency, xeroderma pigmentosum.

George Fein, director of the Developmental Neuropsychology Lab, VAMC: Invited to attend and serve as an expert adviser at the United Nations AIDS Expert Consultation on Cognitive and Neuropsychological Impairment in Early HIV Infection in Washington, DC on June 3-4.

Stanton Glantz, professor of medicine: Appointed recently to the Legislature's special Tobacco Research and Oversight Committee. Glantz has studied the effect of tobacco industry contributions on tobacco-related legislation, and he has sharply criticized state lawmakers for taking industry contributions. He recently received the Chancellor's Award for Public Service for warning the government and public about the health dangers of tobacco and taking on the companies who push the products.


Glantz

Edwin F. Rosinski, professor emeritus, medicine and pharmacy: Honored at the Sesquicentennial of the State University of New York, Buffalo, for his pioneering work in research on medical education.

Charles Yingling, adjunct professor, anesthesia, neurological surgery, and otolaryngology: Elected for a one-year term as president of the American Society of Neurophysiological Monitoring at its recent annual meeting. This society monitors nervous system function during neurosurgical, orthopedic, and other operations during which the brain, spinal cord, or peripheral nerves are at risk for being damaged. Application of these techniques has, for example, reduced the incidence of facial nerve paralysis after surgery to remove acoustic neuromas or other tumors of the skull base. Yingling currently monitors around 200 cases a year at Moffitt/Long and Mount Zion hospitals. Yingling is a founding member of the American Board of Neurophysiological Monitoring, a separate organization created to provide a certification process for individuals performing intraoperative monitoring services.

Contracts & Grants

Mohammed Kashani-Sabet, assistant clinical professor, dermatology: Received the Dermatology Foundation Clinical Career Development Award of $40,000 to support a three-year preclinical investigation of "Gene Therapy of Melanoma Using Hammerhead Ribozymes."

Susan G. Millstein, professor of pediatrics: Received $1,050,330 from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development for a three-year project titled "Risk Perception Biases in Adolescents and Adults." Millstein also received a two-year,$444,464 grant from the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism for a project titled: "Delivery of Alcohol-Related Preventive Services for Youth."

Jonathan Terdiman, assistant clinical professor, medicine: Awarded one-year grant from the Glaxo Wellcome Institute for Digestive Health to pursue medical research in gastrointestinal disease for his project titled, "Analysis of Mutator Phenotype and Mismatch Repair Gene Mutations in Patients with Colorectal Cancer Classified by Family History and Age at Diagnosis."

UCSF Newsbreak

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Deadline for the next issue, to cover June 24–30, 1997, will be on **Wednesday, June 18.** Please send news to Lisa Cisneros, 476-3256 or (cisnero@itsa.ucsf.edu), and calendar items to Nancy Heller, 476-8810 or (nheller@itsa.ucsf.edu) both at Box 0462. Fax last-minute copy to 476-3541. For address and distribution changes, call C.J. Burleson at 476-6791.

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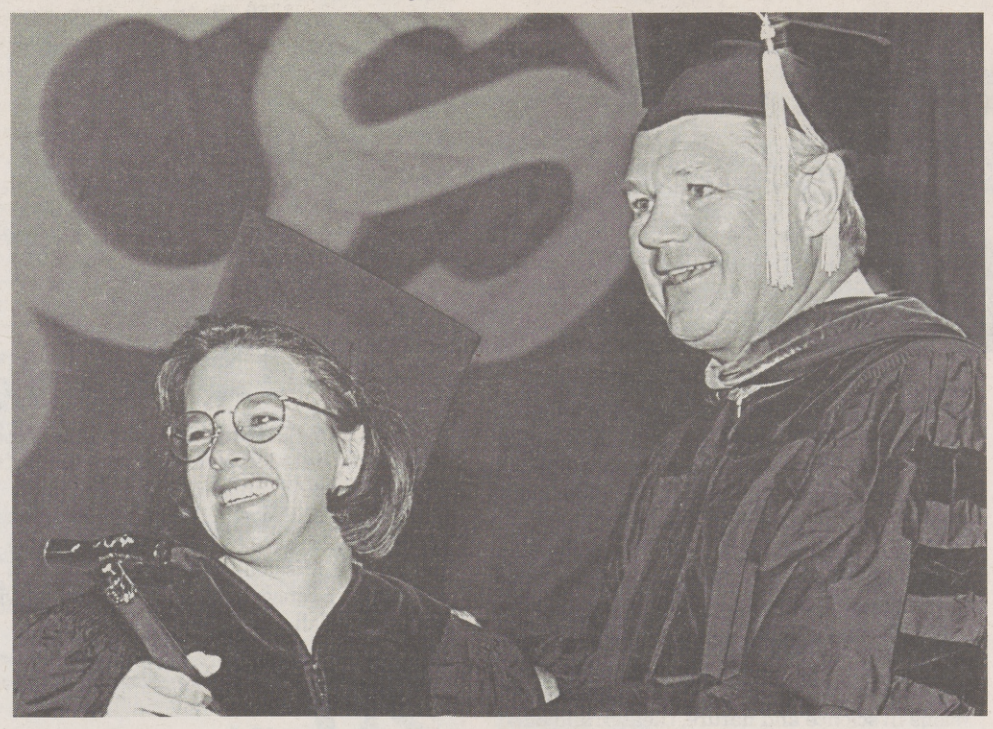
Class of 1997

Photos by Chris T. Anderson



Gold-Headed Cane Award winner Mary Norman at top receives the prestigious prize from Ted Schrock, president of the Gold-Headed Cane Society and chair of surgery.

Physical therapy students from the Graduate Division, Wendy Brown, Melanie Calderwood and Thomas Massman.

Two PhD nursing students, Jeanne Kemppainen and Aroha Page, who received a student leadership award from the Graduate Division Alumni Association along with Jeff Parrott.

Haile Debas, dean of the School of Medicine, addresses graduates at far left.

Norman wins Gold-Headed Cane

Mary Norman says the congruence between her personal life and her medical interests might very well indicate that she has found her calling.

The daughter of parents in their mid-70s and niece to similarly aged aunts and uncles, Norman says she will pursue a career in geriatrics. "I just seem to have a bond with that age group," she says.

Co-founder and vice president of the UCSF Geriatrics Interest Group, Norman received the School of Medicine's highest honor, the Gold Headed Cane, during graduation ceremonies on May 23.

The 30-year-old Norman will enter an internal medicine-primary care residence program at UCSF later this month.

"I look at medicine as a calling," says Norman, who studied finance and economics as an undergraduate and worked in the financial field before setting her sights on medical school.

She was honored along with runners-up Stephen Cook, who will start a family practice residency in Tacoma, Washington and Elizabeth Mahler, who will also be doing her residency at UCSF in internal medicine-primary care.

In 1996, Norman received the Dean's Prize for Research for her epidemiological study of the relationship between prenatal exposure to smoking and childhood brain tumors. She found no significant correlation.

Ever since her mother had a brain tumor removed, the mystery of what causes them has always interested Norman. Her focus on geriatrics also stems from life experience.

Fifteen years younger than her closest sibling, Norman says she spent much of her childhood in Louisiana around older people in nursing homes or beauty parlors.

"I hope to use this experience to better take care of my patients," she says. "In helping older people, you're really providing support for the patient's whole family."

The Gold-Headed Cane is presented each year to a senior medical student judged by classmates and faculty of the School of Medicine as best exemplifying the qualities of a "true physician." The ceremony was initiated at UCSF in 1939 by William J. Kerr, then professor and chairman of the department of medicine.

School of Medicine salutes faculty

The School of Medicine graduating class of 1997 recognized the following faculty members for excellence in teaching during the commencement ceremony:

PRE-CLINICAL FACULTY
Diane Colby, adjunct professor of biochemistry; Nripendra S. Dhillon, lecturer in anatomy; G. David Elkin, assistant clinical professor of psychiatry.

CLINICAL FACULTY
Andre R. Campbell, assistant professor of surgery; David A. Grimes, professor of obstetrics and gynecology; James R. Macho, associate professor of clinical surgery.

HOUSESTAFF
Alka Kanaya, medicine; Geoffrey Manley, neurological surgery; Frederick Pascual, medicine.

JOHN V. CARBONE TEACHING AWARD
James Wright, assistant clinical professor of pediatrics.

SPECIAL FACULTY AWARD
Henry C. Sanchez, assistant clinical professor of pathology

MARIA TERESA MAINO-DIXON FACULTY AWARD FOR STUDENT ADVOCACY
John Engstrom, associate professor of clinical neurology.

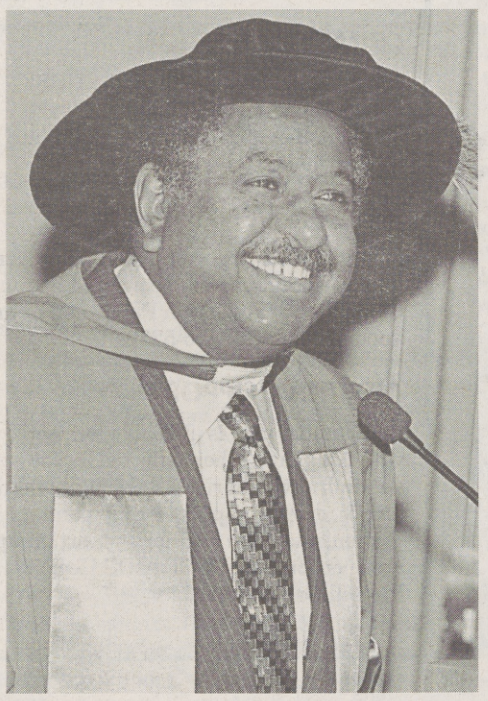
KAISER AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING
The selection committee considered nominations of faculty submitted by medical students and housestaff for these awards that were established by a small endowment from the Kaiser Foundation. Award recipients are:

VOLUNTEER CLINICAL FACULTY
Russell U. Braun, assistant clinical professor of medicine and Daniel J. Lerner, clinical instructor of medicine.

FULL-TIME CLINICAL FACULTY
Meg D. Newman, assistant clinical professor of medicine

BASIC SCIENCES FACULTY
John P. Kane, professor of biochemistry and biophysics

FULL-TIME CLINICAL FACULTY FRESNO MEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM
Linda L. Kuribayashi, associate clinical professor of medicine.



UC will discuss domestic partner benefits in July

UC President Richard Atkinson said recently that he will begin discussing whether the University will offer health and housing benefits to the domestic partners of UC employees at the Regents' meeting in July.

Extending these benefits to employees' domestic partners has been in the works for more than two years. But the issue has garnered increased attention at UCSF since a San Francisco ordinance was passed mandating that businesses with city contracts offer benefits to all registered domestic couples regardless of sexual orientation.

Task force drafts K–12 outreach proposal

The UC Outreach Task Force has issued a draft report for public review that recommends UC expand its academic outreach to the state's K-12 schools in a major effort to improve education at educationally disadvantaged schools.

Under the plan, which results from more than a year of meetings and research by the 35-member task force, each UC campus would work with a group of partner schools in order to better prepare students for college. Partner schools would be selected based on significant educational disadvantage, such as low numbers of college-bound students or limited college preparatory courses.

UC partner schools also would be chosen based on their potential for improvement and their willingness to participate in collaborative efforts with the University.

UC invites public comment on the plan, which is available electronically at www.ucop.edu/acadaff/otf/cover1.html. The plan has also been distributed to more than 40 educational organizations statewide and to every school principal in California.

"The task force has outlined a comprehensive and holistic approach that tackles the difficult problems connected with educational disadvantage," says Richard Atkinson, UC president.

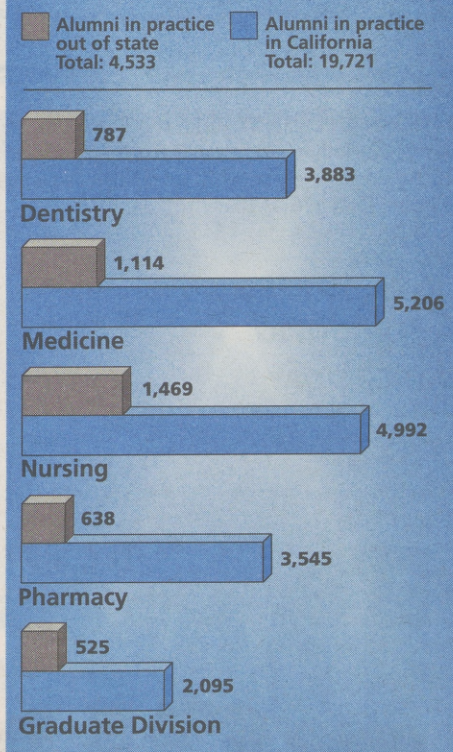
The task force was established by UC Regents following the adoption in July 1995 of a new admissions policy that eliminates the use of race, ethnicity and gender. Regents commissioned the task force to identify ways in which outreach — programs to make prospective students aware of and prepared for rigorous UC study — could be used to assure UC remains accessible to students from diverse backgrounds.

"Regardless of these efforts, a gap clearly continues to exist between the very high standards of achievement required for UC admission and the uneven record of students from different socioeconomic, ethnic, racial and geographic backgrounds in achieving UC eligibility," says C. Judson King, UC provost and senior vice president for academic affairs and co-chair of the task force. "We believe this plan will narrow that gap significantly and make outreach the University's primary tool for recruiting a diverse student body."

INSIDE UCSF

Impact on California

Alumni working in California outnumber those working outside the state by more than four to one.



Source: Annual Report, UCSF Magazine, April 1997

June 7–23, 1997

10 Tuesday

NEWSBREAK/MEDSOUNDS DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

MEDITATION CLASSES: Conducted by Brahma Kumaris Meditation Center and sponsored by the Institute of Healing Arts and Sciences, 12-1 p.m., N 617. Free. Call 584-4416 to register.

FREE DENTAL WORK: Those who attend a free dental screening, 5:30-7 p.m., at 700 Parnassus, may qualify for a free deep cleaning, filling or crown. Call 476-9600.

11 Wednesday

BROWN BAG LECTURE: Cecily Cosby, nurse practitioner for the UCSF Traveler's Clinic, presents *Healthy International Travel,* guidelines for avoiding illness while traveling abroad, 12:10-1 p.m., N 225. Call 476-4394.

12 Thursday

UC RETIREMENT SYSTEM MEETING: Learn about the features and rules of the UC 403(b) retirement plan and basic concepts of investing, noon, Herbst Hall, Mount Zion. Conducted by the UCSF Office of Benefits and Financial Planning.

FOOT SCREENING FOR VETERANS: Consultation on diabetic, athletic and general foot problems. Includes screening for body fat, cholesterol, blood sugar and blood pressure. Participants will receive a free foot care kit, 1-8 p.m., VAMC building 200. Additional screenings will be held June 13 and 14 (times vary). Open to veterans only. Free. Call 800/733-0502.

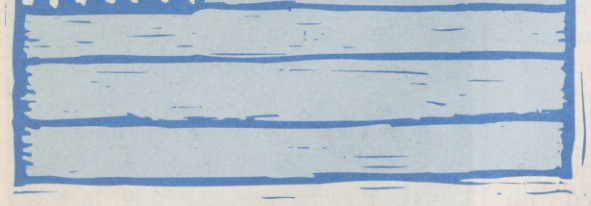
MERGER UPDATE TOWN HALL: See story on page 8.

13 Friday

INTERNAL ORGAN MASSAGE: Learn how to breathe and focus your awareness on your organs to promote better health, noon, N 217. Sponsored by the Institute of Healing Arts and Sciences. Call 584-4416.

14 Saturday

FLAG DAY



DANCE THE FOXTROT: Take the Ballroom Dance Workshop – a great warmup for a night on the town – held at Millberry Fitness Center, 5-7 p.m. Call 476-1115.

15 Sunday

FATHER'S DAY

SEA KAYAKING ANGEL ISLAND: Spend Father's Day kayaking to Angel Island and then hike to the top of Mt. Livermore for a 360 degree view of the Bay Area. There is a pre-trip meeting at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 10. For more information, call 476-2078.

16 Monday

OU SUMMER CAMPS BEGIN: Two-week sessions in science and nature, theater, and outdoor adventure are for children ages 6 through 14. Register your child at the Millberry Fitness Center. Call 476-1469.

OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT SALE: Sleeping bags, backpacks, tents, stoves, wetsuits, paddling jackets and more will be discounted for sale by Outdoors Unlimited through Monday, June 23. Call 476-2078.

ANATOMY CHAIR STEPS DOWN: A reception will be held for Henry J. Ralston, who will step down as chair of anatomy after 24 years, 3:30 p.m., Lange Reading Room, UCSF Library. Call 476-2342.

17 Tuesday

MEDITATION CLASSES: Conducted by Brahma Kumaris Meditation Center and sponsored by the Institute of Healing Arts and Sciences, 12-1 p.m., N 617. Free. Call 584-4416 to register.

BROWN BAG LECTURE: Rabbi Jeffrey M. Silberman, director of pastoral care and education at UCSF/Mount Zion, presents *Is There a Spiritual Crisis in Health Care,* a look at the factors which indicate a spiritual crisis may exist within health care and our culture, noon, Herbst Hall, 1600 Divisadero. Sponsored by UCSF Public Service Programs. Call 476-4394.

TAY SACHS SCREENING FOR PREGNANT COUPLES: Sponsored by the Northern California Tay-Sachs Disease Prevention Program, clinics are run in Oakland and San Francisco. For appointments, call 476-4080.

UPROOTING RACISM: Focus group designed to open a dialogue about racism, noon. Sponsored by the Women's Resource Center. For location, call 476-5837.

18 Wednesday

BROWN BAG LECTURE: Kim Peter Norman, associate clinical professor of psychiatry and director of the UCSF eating disorder clinic, presents an *Update on the Treatment of Eating Disorders,* clinical approaches to anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and obesity, 12:10 p.m., N 225. Call 476-4394.

BLOOD DRIVE AT LAGUNA HONDA: Stop by the Human Resource Conference Center, 1350 7th Avenue, at your convenience, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sponsored by the UCSF Blood Donor Center. Call 476-6989.

ADULT CPR CLASS: This four-hour Red Cross course gives you a one-year certification upon completion. Cost is from $21 to $30. For time and location, call 476-2078.

19 Thursday

BROWN BAG LECTURE: Gloria Thornton, coordinator of Great Expectations Program for Women's Health, presents *A Father's Day Special,* a discussion of the many challenges today's fathers face as their family roles expand, noon, Mission Center room 125, 1855 Folsom St. Sponsored by UCSF Public Service Programs. Call 476-4394.

20 Friday

HOSPITAL NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION: Langley Porter Auditorium. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Department personnel representatives call John Frank at 476-3001.

21 Saturday

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY COMMENCEMENT: See upcoming events.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY COMMENCEMENT: See upcoming events.

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL BENEFIT: Canada's premiere circus troupe performs at Jack London Square in Oakland. Tickets are $100 each through the UCSF/Mount Zion Auxiliary, which is selling them as a fundraiser. Call 885-7354.

COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION LECTURE: The final program of this popular series, titled *Vision and Hearing: Making Sense of Our Aging,* focuses on diagnostic and treatment options, prevention strategies, assistive devices and the latest research in the areas of sight and hearing, Laurel Heights Conference Center. Call 750-5342 for time and registration.

22 Sunday

SKATES IN THE PARK: Olympic gold medalist Kristi Yamaguchi, other professional skaters and celebrity athletes combine their time and talents to produce an in-line skating benefit festival for all ages, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Golden Gate Park, 8th and Fulton. $25. Call 334-PARK.

Location key

ACC – Ambulatory Care Center, 400 Parnassus
C – Clinical Sciences Building, 521 Parnassus
CL – Campus Library, 530 Parnassus
HSW – Health Sciences West
MU – Millberry Union, 500 Parnassus
N – School of Nursing, enter at 513 Parnassus
S – Medical Sciences Building, 513 Parnassus
VAMC – Veterans Affairs Medical Center, 4150 Clement

CONTINUING EDUCATION

MEDICINE

25th Annual Advances in Internal Medicine. Monday, June 23 through Friday, June 27. UCSF.

Family Practice Board Review Course. Monday, July 7 through Thursday, July 10. San Francisco.

Critical Care Cardiology. Thursday, August 7 through Saturday, August 9. San Francisco.

Essentials of Primary Care: A Core Curriculum for Practice in the Managed Care Era. Monday, August 18 through Friday, August 22. North Lake Tahoe.

Clinical Care of the AIDS Patient: Summer Symposium. Thursday, August 21 through Tuesday, August 26. Sun Valley, Idaho.

For more information, call 476-4251.

COMPUTER TRAINING

Facilities Management offers a variety of classes at different levels for PC and MAC users, including Microsoft Word, Access, FileMaker, Excell and using Netscape Navigator. All classes held at the FM Training Room, 3130 20th Street. Shuttles leave from UCSF/Mount Zion, Parnassus and SFGH. Half-day class is $135, full-day is $215. Call 476-6825.

DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING

Solving Real Communication Problems. Tuesday, June 10 and Thursday, June 12, 9 a.m.-noon. $70.

UCSF Budget Basics. Friday, June 13, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

For more information, call 476-4032.

INFORMATICS CLASSES

The UCSF Library offers the following Informatics Training Seminars. Classes are held in S 165A Medical Sciences Building (MSB), the ILC Classroom at 222 Library (LIB) and the San Francisco General Hospital Library (SGFH). Please call 476-2337 for a complete schedule or check out the Informatics website at http://www.library.ucsf.edu/ed/class/

The World Wide Web. Thursday, June 12, 10 a.m.-noon. (SFGH)

Introduction to MEDLINE. Tuesday, June 24, 10 a.m.-noon. (MSB)

CRIME PREVENTION

Presentations are made by the UCSF Police Department to campus departments and employees in the workplace by appointment. Call 476-5683.

RAPE PREVENTION

Personal safety, rape and assault prevention presentations are sponsored by the UCSF Rape Prevention Program. For an appointment, call 476-5222.

AIDS/HIV SUPPORT

Confidential care is available for people with AIDS and others affected by the epidemic. Individual risk assessment and referrals, drop-in support for men and women, and other regular support groups are sponsored by UCSF AIDS Health Project. Call 476-6430.

UCSF'S ELECTRONIC DAILY
DAYBREAK
FOR DAILY NEWS GO TO www.ucsf.edu/daybreak/

CAMPUS BRIEFS

UCSF policies on web

The Office of the Chancellor has established a website for easy access to UCSF administrative policies. Each administrative policy has been updated, rewritten, and reorganized for the UCSF Administrative Policy Website at http://apw.ucsf.edu.

Summer parking permits for sale on June 13

A limited number of summer parking permits for the Parnassus campus will be on sale beginning at noon on Friday, June 13 in the Parking Office, MU, Level G, Room 26.

Parking and Transportation Services will offer these summer parking permits to interested faculty, staff, and students on a first-come, first-served basis for regular daytime parking in the ACC permit garage. Summer parking privileges are good from June 15 through Sept. 15 only. One month or the entire block of three month permits may be purchased. The cost is between $62.50 and $65.00 per month with an additional $20.00 cardtrol deposit, which is refunded upon return of the cardtrol at permit expiration.

What's Happening

UPCOMING EVENTS

Regular meetings and ongoing support groups

Monday

Art for Recovery: Monday and Thursday afternoons. Cancer Center, Infusion Center, second floor. Call Cindy Perlis at 885-7221.

Drop-in Group for Women Living with HIV/AIDS: Free lunch and beverages provided. A 45. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Call 476-2417 or 476-9289.

Health Professionals in Recovery: For physicians, nurses, dentists, pharmacists, PhDs and others. Anonymous, 12-step emphasis. Meets twice a month. Noon. Call 476-8279.

Friends of Lois Al-Anon: Closed meeting: for friends & families of alcoholics only. Room 521, MCB. After Jan. 1, will meet in Room 3, MCB. Noon. Call 626-5633.

Breast Cancer: J 223, UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center, 2356 Sutter. 6-7:30 p.m. Preregistration required. Call Debra Marks at 885-7415 ext. 42529.

Colorectal Cancer Support: Second and fourth Mondays. Room 114, UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center, 2356 Sutter. 6:30-8:00 p.m. Call 885-7585.*

Melanoma: Meets first and third Mondays for patients and family members. Room 114, UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center, 2356 Sutter. 6:30-8:30 p.m. 885-7585*

AIDS Health Project Workshop: For anyone dealing with HIV or AIDS in themselves or others. Gazebo Room, Davies Medical Center 7-9 p.m. Call 476-3902.*

Tuesday

SFGH Circle of Sisters: Monthly networking forum for black women working and studying at UCSF/SFGH. Call 206-8314.

UCSF Staff Council Meeting: Third Tuesdays. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. S 609. Call 476-9977.

MHONA: For victims of trauma with cross disabilities. Ages 15 & over. A 222, LPPI. 10 a.m.-noon. Helpline at 759-7923 provided daily, 7 a.m.-10 p.m.*

Exercise & Physiology Class for Cancer Patients & Survivors: Mount Zion Cardiac Care Gymnasium. 12:30-1:30 p.m. Pre-registration required. Call 885-3693.*

Gospel Choir Rehearsal at UCSF: At MCB, noon. Call 502-0106.*

Parkinson's Disease Education & Support Group: For people with Parkinson's & their caregivers. Third Tuesdays. Christ Church, Lutheran, 1090 Quintara (at 20th Ave.). 2-4 p.m. Call 476-9276.*

Parnassus Players: UCSF's theater group meets first Tuesday at Millberry Union Conference Center. Times vary. Call 921-3231.*

Nurses' Pain Association Meeting: Second Tuesdays. 5:30-7:30 p.m.* Call 476-6100 ext. 40225 for location and topic.

Women's Psychotherapy Group: Langley Porter. 6:00-7:30 p.m. For eligibility requirements and registration call Elaine 931-1958.

Gynecological Cancer: 6:00-7:30 p.m. For location and registration call Debra Marks at 885-7415 ext. 42529.

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder: First and third Tuesdays. 7:30–9:45 p.m. C 517. Call David at 566-8406.

UCSF Leukemia Society Family Support Group: Families and patients welcome. Second Tuesdays, 6-7 p.m. Room S-170. Call facilitators first at 476-4052 or 476-5965.

Brain Tumor: First Tuesdays. C 130. 7:00-8:30 p.m. Call 284-0208.*

Gay Men's Therapy: Tuesdays, 6-7:30 p.m. Call 353-7277.*

Wednesday

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Association at UCSF Meeting: Second Wednesdays. Members of the Chancellor's Committee on Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Issues attend. Call 282-9650.

Family/Friends of Those with Mental Illness: Call Laura Deering-Mayclin at 476-7394.*

Latin American Campus Association Meeting: Second Wednesdays. HSW 508. Noon. Call Lucia DeLeon at 476-2010.

Latin Women Coalition: For Latina faculty, staff and students. Noon-1 p.m. Call 476-7117.*

Parnassus Al-Anon: For friends and families of alcoholics. Observers welcome. C 417. Noon-1 p.m. Call 626-5633.*

Tai Chi Classes: Staff welcome. UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center. Healing Garden, 2356 Sutter. 12-1 p.m. 885-3693.*

Elder Care Resource Class. Wednesdays 12:00-1:00 p.m. C 258 and Thursdays, 11 a.m.-noon, Room 3 Mission Center Building. Call Jane Mahakian, 476-2692.

Alcoholics Anonymous: Closed meeting: Conference Room 3, first floor, MCB. 12:05 p.m. Call 621-1326.

MHONA: A 222, LPPI, 1-3 p.m., and N 517, 7-10 p.m. See Tuesday listing.

Trauma/Injury: First and third Wednesdays. SFGH Library, Bldg. 30, room 3101. 2:30-4 p.m. Call Laurie Barkin at 206-8402 or Dr. Yigal Ben-Haim at 753-1000.

Cultural Diversity Enhancement Committee: Third Wednesdays. 3-4 p.m. L 169. Call 476-2252.

General Cancer: Room J 223, UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center, 2356 Sutter St., 5-7 p.m. Call 885-3693.

Woman Incest Survivors: Must attend for one year. 5:30-7 p.m. For screening, call 476-7526 or 476-7085.

San Francisco City Chorus Rehearsal: 7 p.m. Call 765-SONG.

Eating Disorders: Open to anyone dealing with an eating disorder in themselves or others. Meets first and third Wednesday. M 688. 7-8:30 p.m. Call 332-3425.*

Co-Dependents Anonymous: 12-step program for people with dysfunctional relationships. A119, LPPI. 8-9:30 p.m. Call 432-3529.*

Long-Term Psychotherapy: Meets 5:30-7 p.m. Contact Elaine at 476-7442.

Thursday

AWAKE: Support and education group for people with sleep apnea and their families. Third Thursdays. Bring CPAP equipment for check-up. Call 885-7886.*

Dance Therapy for Cancer Patients: Mount Zion cardiac care gymnasium, 10:30 a.m.-noon.Registration required. Call 885-3693.

Gospel Choir Rehearsal at UCSF: Weekly rehearsals at Parnassus. Noon. Call 502-0106.*

Black Caucus: First Thursdays. Noon. Call KING hotline at 502-KING.

Head & Neck Cancer Surgery: Separate groups for patients and families meet on second and fourth Thursdays. J 221, UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center, 2356 Sutter. 1-2 p.m. Call first 885-7623.*

Association of Clinical Research Nurses Meeting: Alternates monthly between UCSF and Stanford. 5:45-7:30 p.m. Call 476-0683.*

Support for Women Living with Life-Altering Illness: Alternate Thursdays. 6-8 p.m. Call 775-2854 to pre-register.*

Friday

Circle of Sisters: Networking forum for black women working and studying at UCSF. Second and third Fridays. Noon-1 p.m. Call 502-5666.

Weight Watchers: S 159. Noon-12:45 p.m. Call 476-3904.*

Alcoholics Anonymous: Closed meeting: C 417. 12:10-1 p.m. Call 621-1326.*

Goldman Institute on Aging Caregiver Support Group: First Fridays. $10 per meeting. 3330 Geary Blvd. 2-4 p.m. Call 986-2305.

Prostate Cancer: Second and fourth Fridays, 6-7:30 p.m., J 223, UCSF/ Mount Zion Cancer Center, 2356 Sutter St. Registration required. Call 885-7415, ext. 42508.

For information on 12-step and support groups, call the Bay Area Self-Help Center at 772-4357 or the Mental Health Association of San Francisco at 882-6230.*

*OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Newsbreak deadline

Wednesday, June 18 is the deadline for items to be listed in the next calendar, which covers June 24 - June 30, 1997 (one week). Complete information must be received in our office in writing by 11 a.m. on that Wednesday. Send information for calendar items to Nancy Heller at (nheller@itsa.ucsf.edu), mail it to Box 0462, send a fax to 476-3541, bring it to UCSF/Laurel Heights, 3333 California St., Suite 103 or call 476-3163. To submit information for Newsbreak/Medsounds send email to Lisa Cisneros at (cisnero@itsa.ucsf.edu), or fax it to her at 476-3541.

Breast cancer screenings

Women can have low-cost mammograms — X-rays to screen for breast cancer — from a mobile van that travels to convenient locations in the Bay Area.Women need the approval of their physician, in addition to their doctor's full name, address (including room number & zip code) and phone number to assure that results are mailed promptly. The procedure takes approximately 20 minutes and costs $75. Call 476-2193 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. to make an appointment. Listed below are dates when the van will be at UCSF locations. Call 476-2193 for a full schedule.

- Friday, June 13, UCSF Lakeshore Plaza, 1501 Sloat Blvd.
- Wednesday, June 25, Lakeshore Plaza.
- Friday, June 27, Parnassus.

Commencement ceremonies

School of Pharmacy

The School of Pharmacy commencement will be held Saturday, June 21 at 11 a.m. at the Nob Hill Masonic Center, 1111 California St. Keynote speaker will be Mary Ann Koda-Kimble, chair of UCSF's department of clinical pharmacy. This year's nominees for the Bowl of Hygeia award are David Barbour, Marie Belshe, Darren Lew, Sandy Tan and Winnie Wong.

School of Dentistry

The School of Dentistry graduation ceremony will be held on Saturday, June 21 at 4 p.m. at the Nob Hill Masonic Center, 1111 California St. Arthur Dugoni, dean of the School of Dentistry at the University of the Pacific, will speak on "The Station."

Educational films for Gay Pride Week

In celebration of Gay Pride Week, the Women's Resource Center is sponsoring a two-hour program of films and open forum discussions to examine gay issues among children. "Camp Lavender Hill," a documentary about the first summer camp for children of gay, lesbian or bisexual parents, will be shown Thursday, June 26 from 11:30 a.m. to noon in S 214. From noon to 1:30, "It's Elementary," a documentary film that makes a compelling case for including gay issues in multicultural education, will be shown. The program will run again later that day from 5 to 7 p.m. For more information, call 476-5222.

Art exhibit heals

Quilts created by more than 100 breast cancer survivors and artwork made by UCSF patients facing life-threatening disease will be on display through Monday, June 30 in an exhibition focusing on the power of art in the lives of those who are ill at the Interim City Hall, 401 Van Ness Ave., fourth floor.

"Art on the Front Lines of Healing" is part of the The Breast Cancer Quilt Project, sponsored by Art for Recovery at UCSF/Mount Zion and presented by the Art Commission Gallery of the San Francisco Art Commission.

The exhibit captures the emotions of Bay Area women who have breast cancer within the fabric of multi-colored quilts. Individual quilt squares contain poems, photographs, fabric with personal memories and paintings that describe the artists' feelings.

For more information about The Breast Cancer Quilt Project, contact Cindy Perlis at 885-7221. For more information on the exhibit, call 255-3474.

Night at the symphony

The UC Alumni Association in conjunction with the San Francisco Symphony presents an all-UC night at the symphony, Thursday, June 26 at Davies Symphony Hall on Grove Street, between Van Ness and Franklin Street. A pre-concert reception runs from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and the symphony, led by Michael Tilson Thomas, performs at 8 p.m. The deadline to order tickets for this event is Friday, June 20. Call 864-6000 and ask for "all-UC night."

Whitewater rafting

Raft a Class III river with your friends and colleagues. One-day group whitewater rafting trips for up to 16 people are organized for UCSF students and staff by Outdoors Unlimited from May through October. The cost is $45 per person. Reservations must be made at least one month in advance. For details call David Delfiner at 502-2508.

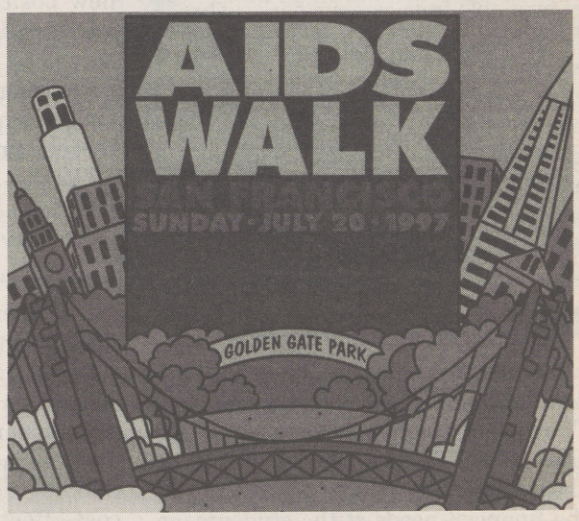
Fine needle biopsy course

The 18th Annual Comprehensive Fine Needle Biopsy Course, sponsored by the department of pathology in cooperation with the California Society of Pathologists, will be held Saturday, August 9 through Saturday, August 16 at The Hyatt Regency Kauai Resort and Spa. The course examines fine needle aspirate biopsy history, optimal anesthesia, biopsy, smearing techniques, management of patients, as well as potential FNA medical/legal problems and how to avoid them. Tuition is $975 (because of the importance of microscopy to the course, the cost of a rental microscope is included in the course registration fee). To register for the course, call 476-5808.

Summer intramurals

Summer promises to bring another exciting quarter of intramural volleyball, 3-on-3 basketball, softball and towerball and registration is open through June 30. To sign up your team, get an entry form at the intramural sports table just outside the Millberry Union Fitness Center entrance. If you are interested in playing but don't have enough people to start a team, show up on the night of play and you may be picked up by a team that needs players. Mail entries to Blair Hoover, IM entry, Box 0234. Payment is accepted only by checks made out to UC Regents. For more information, call 476-0356.

A step to relief



Help in the fight against HIV by participating in AIDS Walk San Francisco, a 10 K walk that begins and ends in Golden Gate Park on Sunday, July 20. The event, which begins at 10:30 a.m., raised more than $3 million last year for Bay Area AIDS organizations, including the UCSF AIDS Health Project. Funds raised from the walk support vital services to people with HIV and AIDS and their extended families, such as emergency financial assistance, crisis intervention and a hot meal program.

All walkers who turn in $100 or more are invited to the AIDS Walk "Thank You Celebration," hosted by the San Francisco Marriot on the evening of Sunday, August 31. All participants receive a free T-shirt. Sign-in begins at 9:30 a.m. UCSF is co-chair of this, Northern California's largest AIDS fundraising event. To obtain registration cards for friends, family or neighbors, call Martha Geraty at 476-4394. For more information, call 392-WALK.

A green thumbs up for Laurel Heights' landscaping

By BRAD FOSS

When Laurel Heights was home to the Fireman's Fund Insurance Co., the 10-acre site at the crest of California Street was landscaped by a full-time team of gardeners.

But since late 1993, when UCSF began occupying the facility, its trees, shrubbery and flower patches have been manicured mainly through the efforts of one man.

The work Adrian Field has done — which includes many hours before sunrise — has not gone unnoticed.

Laurel Heights last year received the Environmental Improvement Award of Distinction from the Associated Landscape Contractors of America, a trade association representing roughly 1,500 landscape contracting firms throughout the US and Canada, for "promoting, protecting and preserving the heritage of beauty for all future generations." The campus has also received the San Francisco Beautiful Award, which recognizes the "creation and preservation of beauty of San Francisco."

Fragrant rosemary bushes and Monterey cypress line the property's California Street entrance. Marigolds, red salvia and impatiens dot the east and west perimeters, and to the south, a park-like courtyard overlooks the city's downtown.

Field's skills are also respected by Laurel Heights employees, some of whom will approach him with questions about maintaining their home gardens.

In what is perhaps the ultimate form of flattery (and frustration), from time-to-time passersby can be seen picking flowers and rosemary as they walk by. "You get people borrowing things," Field concedes euphemistically.

Brad Foss

One of the pleasures of working at Laurel Heights is the smell of freshly cut grass, thanks to the handiwork of Adrian Field.

Building manager Shirley Weber, couldn't be more thrilled that Field's work has attracted nationwide attention. "I love it," she says. "This ten acres is like my big backyard."

Before joining Gardener's Guild, the company that contracts with UCSF, and which handles the landscaping for Yerba Buena Gardens, Field taught landscaping to developmentally disabled people at Peninsula hospital, where gardening was used as a tool to teach social and work skills.

Lately, he has been doing long-range landscape planning for Laurel Heights, whose population will grow when the Center for Social, Behavioral and Policy Studies moves into the vacant upper floors.

"We're going to have to start thinking about what people can see from their offices," he says, "which means going up to the roof and the top floors and looking down.

"Apart from that," Field says, "it's work, work, work, weed, weed, weed, snip, snip, snip."

Police investigate computer thefts at Mission Center

UCSF Police continue to investigate a theft of computer equipment — believed to be connected to a string of similar heists in San Francisco — reported stolen in broad daylight on Thursday, May 22 from a vehicle making a delivery at the Mission Center building loading dock area.

"It appears that this case is tied to the rash of city incidents," says Det. Holly Choy.

The theft of new Dell equipment — all central processing units — valued at about $30,000 occurred between 11:30 and 11:50 a.m., says Choy.

The driver making the delivery for an independent courier company to MCB observed a white minivan parked near the loading dock at 1855 Folsom St. He reported seeing three Hispanic males, aged 30 to 35 years, standing by the van. One suspect approached him speaking Spanish. Although the driver does not speak Spanish, he told police that the suspect offered assistance to unload the equipment. After the delivery man turned away the helping hand, he locked the vehicle and made a delivery. Twenty minutes later, the delivery man noticed that the blue stretch wrap used to protect the computer equipment was hanging out of the door of the truck. He noticed that the lock was cut off the door and a dozen CPUs were reportedly missing, according to police. The white minivan, make unknown, was also gone.

The delivery man said the rear licenses plates were missing and it is unknown if there was a front license plate.

UCSF police say the theft is similar to a series of recent computer thefts throughout the city. They are conducting the investigation with the San Francisco Police Department and the California Highway Patrol's cargo theft unit, which have been working to solve crimes that they believe may be connected to an organized crime group with a similar method of operation based in Los Angeles.

The day before the theft at MCB, a group of bandits reportedly took $18,000 in computers from a delivery van parked outside the Embarcadero Center the morning of May 21, according to police. In that incident, which occurred outside 325 Sacramento St., witnesses described the getaway vehicle as a dirty white Ford Aerostar minivan without side windows, police say.

UCSF Police have issued numerous crime alerts to let the campus community know about the crime. They ask employees and students to keep an eye out when walking by campus loading docks and to notify police if they see anything suspicious, such as a white minivan without a rear license plate parked near a campus loading area.

Anyone with any information about the computer thefts should call the UCSF Police Department's Investigation Section at 476-6890. In an emergency, call 476-6911.

— By Lisa Cisneros

Lock bikes in designated areas

Riding a bicycle to work ranks high among healthy habits as it relieves traffic, reduces noxious emissions and improves cardiovascular conditioning.

Yet even so, some people who pedal to work each day could inadvertently cause more harm than good when they park their bikes outside designated areas and block emergency exits on campus.

Securing bikes in this way impedes access to areas during an emergency and causes unnecessary damage to University property, says Medical Center safety officer Cindy Lima.

As a result, bicyclists are being asked to lock their bikes in designated areas only. Specifically, the UCSF Police Department is requesting that bicycles not be locked to railings or security pipes inside or outside of buildings.

The police have no plans to issue citations. Their goal is to encourage bicyclists to use the racks on the west side of ACC, the parking cage on the A level of Millberry Union and authorized areas at other UCSF sites.

Keys to the Milberry Union facility are available from campus parking by filling out an application and paying a refundable $3 fee. After-hours employees may request escort to the bicycle parking area by contacting campus police at 476-1414 or hospital security services at 476-4903. For more information on where to park bicycles around Mount Zion call 885-7890.

National Safety Council awards EH&S

The UCSF Office of Environmental Health & Safety will receive a national award in recognition of its creative problem solving and novel approach to protecting the campus from myriad hazards.

The National Safety Council's Campus Safety Division is honoring UCSF's service improvements described in an entry submitted by the EH&S Office. Entries were evaluated based on identification of a problem, implementation method, cost effectiveness and applicability to other institutions.

Directed by Ara Tahmassian, the EH&S Office reorganized its services in 1993 to be more responsive to concerns expressed by the research community and to make more efficient use of scarce budget resources. Its reengineering efforts over the past four years have resulted in fewer emergency response calls, reduced paper work and a 17 percent decrease in expenses, according to John Shaver, manager of hazardous materials.

"We've improved training and services while we've reduced our expenses," he says. "To me, this is an example of what reengineering is all about."

The major innovation in the restructuring of EH&S operations was creating new positions called department safety advisors. UCSF now has nine such advisors who are assigned to each campus department or unit and are responsible for meeting their complete safety needs, thereby providing one point of contact for all EH&S services.

Before the advent of this role, labs were serviced by different EH&S staff who specialized in areas such as radiation, chemical and biological safety, etc.

Advisors now conduct consolidated audits of laboratory safety programs, evaluating departments in all areas, even fire/life safety and controlled substances. They also issue authorizations for all hazardous materials and maintain safety records for their assigned clients.

EH&S staff time was cut by 22 percent or 14 full-time equivalents in the process.

"This approach has allowed for more tailored training for each lab," says Shaver, who believes employees who are better informed practice better safety habits. "It's not rocket science, people just need to know what to do."

Indeed, UCSF has made great gains in its safety records in recent years as it aims to comply with federal, state and local regulatory requirements that are both comprehensive and complex. For example, audits of the University's radioactive materials license by the California Department of Health Services have been successful in recent years.

EH&S will receive its award on Monday, July 14 during the 44th International Conference on Campus Safety at the University of Utah. The National Safety Council is a non-governmental, not-for-profit, international public service organization protecting life and promoting health.

A good reason to button up

They're free, attractive and could give you more than a pin hole in your clothes.

They are the UCSF buttons that call for saving water and energy as part of the ongoing awareness program to help encourage the conservation of these resources both at home and on campus. If you're spotted wearing a button by program organizers, you could win an energy-saving compact fluorescent bulb that saves you money as well as energy.

"We hope that by wearing this button, everyone will be more aware of the program and, hopefully, do the right thing by conserving," says Dave Bohler of the sponsoring UCSF Facilities Management Department.

To help get out the conservation message and involve more people in the program, the buttons will be available at several sites, Millberry Union, the Medical Sciences Building, Laurel Heights and the Schools of Nursing and Dentistry.

Compared to the more traditional incandescent light bulb, which uses 100 watts and costs about one cent per hour, a compact fluorescent bulb of the type being awarded uses only 27 watts and costs about one cent for every four hours, according to PG&E.

The names and photos of the light bulb winners can be seen on the awareness program's website at www.fm.ucsf.edu/energy.htm.

If you're interested in obtaining a button, you can also call the program hotline at 502-8350, or email hydrowatt@fm.ucsf.edu.

Aldea (from page 1)

posal, current tenants would pay only a 3 percent annual inflationary increase.

"They're still going to be well below market value," Jacobs says. Availability for the new housing will be based, in part, on the financial needs of the students, as well as whether they have children.

Dry rot, plumbing and electrical problems, tree root intrusion and general wear and tear were identified as problems needing to be addressed. "Our expenditures for maintaining the units were exceedingly high," Jacobs says. "Continuing to fix things as they broke wasn't the answer."

However, it was one of three options the housing office considered, as was another proposal to remodel the existing structures and replace major infrastructure to comply with state codes. In the end, demolishing the buildings and building new ones was deemed the most cost-effective way to meet safety standards and preserve the long-term market value of the residences.

During the redevelopment, the existing maximum population of Aldea will be reduced by about one-third, but the University says it will provide an allowance to students and their families to help defray the costs of relocating into other Aldea units during construction.

Medsounds

Parenting class — 'a gift to our children'

By BRAD FOSS

Asked to describe how they felt after being disciplined by their parents, a group of adults recently responded: "hurt," "fearful," "belittled," and "isolated."

More surprising, however, were the new-sprung feelings the exercise evoked among these mostly single, African-American mothers, participants in the eight-week Afrocentric parenting skills class offered by the UCSF/Mount Zion pediatrics department.

"I haven't thought about that in years," said one mother. "I feel like I'm gonna cry," said another.

Pamela Satterwhite, program director of the UCSF/Mount Zion Violence Prevention Program and mentor of the parenting class, nodded her head encouragingly. By acknowledging their own feelings, parents will be better able to understand those of their children, a key strategy toward effective parenting, she says.

The parenting class, now in its second session, is one of a variety of family-support programs offered by UCSF/Mount Zion to strengthen families and reduce violence in the Western Addition, one of San Francisco's poorest neighborhoods and the area where many UCSF/Mount Zion Medical Center patients live.

That 20 to 25 people congregate weekly to discuss the issues facing their families represents a "positive step toward breaking out of the isolation of parenting," says Satterwhite, a former director of the Juvenile Probation Commission in San Francisco. "The parents who are coming to this class are really concerned about the breakdown of community. African Americans come from a strong oral tradition and I think we appreciate and connect better with collective strategies and interventions," she says.

From economic hardship to substance abuse, many circumstances contribute to violence at home, school or in neighborhood streets, which must be considered a "public health problem," says Meg McNamara, chief of pediatrics at UCSF/Mount Zion and executive director of the violence prevention program. McNamara says primary care physicians don't always have enough time during patient visits to thoroughly address the complexities of parenting.

"Nevertheless, as primary care providers, we need to address the child's overall health and well-being within the family. We cannot treat the child in isolation," McNamara says.

In addition to family communication classes, the project offers intensive family intervention and counseling, respite care for families in crisis, and violence-prevention training for medical staff.

For instance, pediatric residents — many of whom are younger than the parents of their patients — are now trained to discuss discipline techniques in a non-threatening way.

The need to teach alternatives to corporal punishment was identified as a top priority of the violence prevention program.

Brad Foss

Parents practice role playing in class.

"The bottom line is that most parents don't want to do anything that will hurt their child. So if you can give them effective, alternative strategies, they're usually pretty happy about it," McNamara says.

Claudette Hubbard, a class participant, says more than anything else, she is learning about "opening up" her feelings and communicating them to others. "It's a good place to just vent," she says.

As part of the program, parents are to keep track of conflicts they have with their children. The goal is to pinpoint patterns of tension so that parents become more aware of the causes of conflict.

The ultimate goal, Satterwhite explains, is for parents and children to express their feelings using "a language of cooperation, rather than blame," to avoid verbal, emotional and physical violence.

The essence of discipline, she says, can be found in the Greek word discipulus, which means 'to learn.' "It's really a gift to our children to show them how to become parents. Our role, really, is to help children learn."

The parenting class is held at the Booker T. Washington Community Service Center, 800 Presidio St. on Monday evenings and runs through June 23. Childcare is provided. For more information and class registration, call Satterwhite at 885-7681.

Benefits (from page 8)

concern right now is in obtaining merger-specific information.

"I was mostly interested in attending this meeting because of the merger," said Judy Derstine, a genetics counselor who works in the department of pediatrics. "I'm pretty concerned because I only need to work two more years to get a satisfactory retirement."

Employees closer to retirement age said they are following merger developments with a watchful eye.

"Most of us in our 50s already knew a lot of this information about the retirement plan," said Carol Porter, associate director of nutrition services. Porter says the amount of retirement she would collect if she were to stop working today would be less than what she hopes to receive upon turning 60.

"What I really need to learn is what the new organization is going to do," she said.

Indeed, familiarity with their current benefits packages will help UCSF employees make decisions regarding their UC insurance and retirement options if they should separate from the University — regardless of whether they are offered or accept employment at UCSHC.

For those who missed the benefits counseling sessions, the human resources department has published a list of frequently asked questions about UC health coverage, insurance and retirement with an accompanying set of answers. The questions and answers will be updated regularly and can be viewed on Daybreak at www.ucsf.edu/daybreak/.

Dates for the next series of counseling sessions will be announced in Newsbreak and Daybreak as soon as they are made available. Plans are also being made to offer individualized counseling sessions.

Prostate (from page 8)

cells for activating the body's killer T-cells to specifically attack cancer cells.

Patients in the study will undergo a routine outpatient medical process called apheresis in which white blood cells, including dendritic cells, are drawn from their blood. The four-hour procedure is not expected to have any notable side effects for patients. The dendritic cells will then be combined in a lab with a prostate cancer antigen before they are re-infused in the patient. During the lab process, the cells are "educated" to recognize prostate tumor cells in the body and launch their attack.

Although the manner of recruiting the immune system in the battle against cancer is new, many experts believe the best hope against advanced prostate cancer is in novel therapies, according to Eric Small, co-director of the UCSF Cancer Center urologic-oncology program and principal investigator for the study.

"The concept here is, rather than attacking and killing cells indiscriminately, we will stimulate a patient's immune system to attack cancer," Small says. "This process will hopefully allow us to make a very specific attack against prostate cancer cells and avoid the numerous side effects associated with most other cancer treatments."

Activated Cell Therapy (ACT), a biotechnology company in Mountain View, developed the cell therapy technology used to harvest dendritic cells from peripheral blood and activate those cells using prostate antigens. The company is providing the dendritic cell therapy product for the clinical trial.

Prostate cancer is now the second-leading cause of cancer death among men. This year alone, 334,500 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in the US and 40,000 will die from the disease.

While many men live a long time with the disease, there is little consensus on how to treat prostate cancer after it has spread, says Small. Chemotherapy produces mixed results. But researchers hope that immunotherapy, such as the study's vaccine, will be successful in the future in treating prostate and other cancers. The UCSF Cancer Center study is similar to a trial being conducted by the Pacific Northwest Cancer Foundation in Seattle, where investigators who treated 51 men reported some promising results at an American Cancer Society conference.

The UCSF study seeks about 30 patients. To be eligible, patients must have prostate cancer that has advanced and has failed treatment with standard hormonal therapy. The study involves receiving three treatments one month apart. For information on the trial, call Small at the UCSF Cancer Center at 415/885-7329.

Prostate screening

Since prostate cancer is seldom curable once symptoms such as painful urination or blood in the urine develop, it's especially important for early detection through screening, according to "Everybody's Guide to Cancer Therapy."

Both a digital rectal exam and a prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood level are recommended annually for men over age 50. In the case of a family history of prostate cancer, men should start these annual tests at age 40.

Infection (from page 8)

Getting health care workers to change their hand washing habits is a lot less daunting a task than advocating for the reform of antibiotic use, says Jordan.

The regulation of antibiotics is perhaps the greatest hurdle facing modern medical practice today. For that reason, the CDC's Hospital Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee and others call for prudent antibiotic use by clinicians to halt VRE.

Other recommendations include: educating hospital personnel regarding the problem of VRE; early detection and prompt reporting of VRE and other microorganisms by the hospital microbiology laboratory; and immediate implementation of appropriate infection-control measures to prevent person-to-person transmission of VRE.

While early identification by screening is ideal, the problem is that most patients have already been hospitalized for some period prior to a positive culture, Jordan says.

A lack of consensus

Infection control is further complicated by the wide range of infection control practices and the deficiency of hard data regarding effective strategies.

"UCSF is aggressive in looking for VRE," says Jordan, who says some hospitals aren't as vigilant. "UC is one of the few hospitals that is complying with the CDC guidelines with some modifications."

UCSF has instituted several other precautionary measures, including posting colorful signs at patient doors to alert them to take extra precautions before entering a room. The sign referring to special organisms, such as VRE, ask health care providers to put on gowns. But the gown policy has caused controversy among some staff who say the gowns are overly cautious or a waste of precious time. Some cite the lack of evidence that prove the efficacy of using gowns.

The UCSF pharmacy and therapy committee also instituted a policy of discontinuing vancomycin after 72 hours unless there is documented evidence to do otherwise, Jordan says.

Health care workers can't shoulder all the blame for antibiotic control, however. "The soaring rate of TB in the late '80s is indicative of the whole burden of antibiotic resistance," explains John Conte, infection control director.

The spread of TB — which now kills about 3 million people a year worldwide — is due in part to patients who don't take daily medication regularly. As a result, they develop strains resistant to antibiotics because the hardiest bacteria survive, mutate and reproduce, Conte explains.

And although VRE is not airborne like TB, Conte points out, "VRE lives forever on inanimate surfaces."

Conte suggested it may be helpful to select a ward where total antibiotic control can be measured to see outcomes of infection. Every dose can be calculated for six months to see what happens with infection rates, he adds.

Infection control issues are timely now as cost-conscious hospitals cut staff, according to Peter Jensen, director of infection control at the VAMC.

With the move toward shorter hospital stays, the burden of infection control has moved from the inpatient setting to outpatient areas and into the community, adds Jensen.

"Like it or not, infection control has been an add-on program for some hospitals," Jensen says. "We take it a lot more seriously than other places."

And while there is difficulty reaching a consensus on how to combat VRE, most experts agree that policy and decision making should be tailored to fit individual institutions based on their patient population, level of acuity and that surveillance and monitoring should be focused.

UCSF
Medsounds

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Chris T. Anderson

June Tucker, right, visits with her sister Myrtle Larson at the On Lok SeniorHealth Center.

Centenarian toasts life with seniors

Turning 100 may not be the major milestone it once was, but June Tucker's 100th birthday did not pass unnoticed.

She was the guest of honor at a special bash recently in San Francisco. And the celebration of Tucker's 100th birthday was made that much sweeter because she marked it with her "kid" sister, Myrtle Larson, who turned 90 last month.

The two siblings have apartments right next to each other in San Francisco's Civic Center and are regular participants in the new Fillmore Street program of On Lok SeniorHealth by Institute on Aging/UCSF. The managed care program for frail elderly offers stimulating activities, socializing, a hot meal, and a staff that can provide medical care, nursing care, rehabilitation, medication, and dental and podiatry services. Most importantly, the program allows seniors the chance to stay in their own home rather than be placed in a nursing facility.

"It's been wonderful," Tucker says of the program. "I like it very much. It answers a lot of problems."

Tucker and her sister faithfully come to the program two days a week. Born in St. Paul, Minn., Tucker lived in Seattle before moving to San Francisco 40 years ago. Larson joined her from Grants Pass, Oregon, following her husband's death in 1977. As they did when they were young, the two sisters now share their lives, looking out for one another.

"I spend most of my time with her," Larson says of her sister. "When I get tired, I just go to my own apartment."

Although Tucker has had a few ailments in recent years, including diabetes, she remains in generally good health.

As for her 100 years, "I don't make an issue out of it," Tucker says, "I take it as it comes."

On Lok SeniorHealth by IOA/UCSF represents a collaboration between the 25-year-old award-winning On Lok SeniorHealth program and the UCSF-affiliated Goldman Institute on Aging. The program has grown to five centers throughout San Francisco that cater to the needs of 600 frail elderly. The program continues to enroll Medicare and Medi-Cal eligible seniors who are 55 and older for the new site on Fillmore Street. For more information, contact On Lok SeniorHealth by IOA/UCSF at 447-1000.

— Dale Martin

Arnold remains a fixture at Mount Zion

A fixture at Mount Zion hospital since 1968, Mary Arnold says her tenure has been anything but stagnant.

Once a temporary employee, today Arnold's place in the department of medicine is quite secure. It's said that she knows more doctors at Mount Zion than anyone else.

Arnold

"Mary is a veritable wealth of information, experience and expertise," says Jeanne Dean, assistant director at Mount Zion.

Since 1975, when Mount Zion named Kenneth Woeber its first full-time chief of medicine, Arnold has played an important role in the department of internal medicine's administration. She has overseen the application process for interns and residents, mapped out their rotations once accepted, and coordinated the hospital's continuing medical education program. She also manages billing for several faculty practice groups.

For nearly three decades of service to students and doctors at Mount Zion, and an equal dedication to volunteerism, Arnold has earned our THANKS.

Arnold has known so many Mount Zion physicians since their days as students — she calls them her children — that, she admits, "It's hard to start calling them doctor so and so.

"But it's fun watching the students become mature and confident and go out there and take care of moms and dads," she says.

Away from the office, Arnold had been a competitive ballroom dancer from the time she was a teenager until she sustained an ankle injury and was forced to give it up recently. She is still an avid gardener and animal lover.

Friends often ask why she has stayed at one job for so long.

"I liken it to not being at the same job because the people always change," Arnold says.

T.H.a.N.K.S!

"To Honor, Acknowledge, and Note Kindness and Service"

Employees consider retirement options, UCSHC to hold 'town hall' for faculty

By BRAD FOSS

As officials at the nascent UCSF Stanford Health Care (UCSHC) make transition decisions integral to its Sept. 1 start, the human resources staff at UCSF is doing its part to help Medical Center employees understand how they and their families might be affected by this merger.

On Tuesday, roughly 75 employees attended a benefits counseling session which spelled out the eligibility requirements and mathematical formulas underlying the University's basic retirement package. Mary Kahn, manager of UCSF Benefits and Financial Planning, took ample time to answer specific questions from the audience, and alluded to more personalized counseling sessions that would be made available to employees soon. The hour-and-a-half program was the second to last in a series held throughout May and into early June.

Recent merger developments will be shared with faculty at a "town hall" meeting on Thursday, June 12 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in Cole Hall. Bruce Wintroub, chief medical officer of UCSHC, will facilitate this meeting, which is intended for the exchange of ideas and opinions, as well as to answer any questions faculty may have.

Upon leaving the open meeting, participants said they knew more about UC's retirement options than they had previously, but added that their number one

(See **Benefits** on page 7)

Chronology of merger procedures:

- Information about the benefits package being offered by UCSHC will be mailed to employees later this month.
- On July 18, the UC Board of Regents will be asked to approve the merger.
- If the proposed affiliation agreements are approved by both the Regents and the Stanford Board of Trustees, UCSHC is expected to mail job offers to the homes of current UCSF and Stanford employees. Dates of this mailing have not been announced.
- On Sept. 1, the merged medical center plans to open its doors to the public.

Infection Control battles resistant diseases

By LISA CISNEROS

As infectious diseases grow more resistant to antibiotics, infection control experts say precautions as simple as hand washing could save lives.

The breakdown of basic hygiene has been linked in studies to outbreaks of bacterial and viral illness in hospitals, nursing homes and child care centers nationwide.

More than a third of all infections acquired in a hospital, called nosocomial infections, are easily preventable, says Marilyn Jordan, infection control nurse. Sophisticated procedures are often not necessary beyond basic cleanliness and sanitation in the handling and storing of equipment and surfaces in patient rooms.

Such measures are crucial at a top tertiary medical center like UCSF, where a large population of immunosuppressed patients is especially vulnerable, Jordan says. "Hand washing is the single most important thing to do to stop infection," she says.

Non-compliance is so common in hospitals and clinics around the nation that the Centers for Disease Control estimates that only 20 to 40 percent of all health care workers routinely wash their hands.

"That's a scary statistic," admits Jordan, whose job includes reminding and reinforcing environmental infection control measures in the UCSF Medical Center. Jordan and other infection control experts are waging a battle to stop a surge in resistant pathogens, most commonly vancomycin resistant enterococcus (VRE).

Some strains cause problems such as pneumonia, toxic shock, diarrhea and urinary track infections in very ill hospitalized patients. Patients most at risk for VRE are those exposed to multiple antibiotics, abdominal surgery, prolonged hospitalization or stays in the ICU, Jordan says.

The rapid increase in the incidence of infection with VRE mirrors what's happening nationwide, according to the CDC's National Nosocomial Infections Surveillance (NNIS) system. VRE first appeared in the US in 1988. From 1989 to 1994, the percentage of nosocomial VRE in patients in intensive-care units jumped from .4 percent to 13.6 percent.

A disturbing trend

This trend poses serious problems, not the least of which is the lack of available antimicrobial therapy for VRE infections because they are invincible to drugs previously used to treat such infections.

"In the case of VRE, there is no other antibiotic to use. That's why we're so worried about it," says Tom Shaughnessy, an anesthesiologist in critical care.

Although enterococci can be found in the normal gastrointestinal and female genital tracts, recent reports of outbreaks and endemic infections caused by enterococci, including VRE, have indicated that patient-to-patient transmission of the mircroorganisms can occur either through direct contact or through indirect contact via the hands of health care staff or contaminated patient-care equipment or environmental surfaces.

(See **Infection** on page 7)

Prostate cancer vaccine studied

By DALE MARTIN

UCSF researchers are using a rare immune-system cell to create a vaccine that may prolong the lives of men with advanced prostate cancer.

Researchers at the UCSF Cancer Center have begun a clinical trial using dendritic cells to launch an attack on tumors in patients with advanced disease. Unlike common vaccines that prevent people from becoming ill, cancer vaccines under study are being designed to fight illness that has already occurred to prevent spreading, and thereby prolong life.

The attempt to use dendritic cells may be a more sophisticated twist, however. Dendritic cells are regarded by researchers as being the most efficient

(See **Prostate** on page 7)